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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 5566**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRAPPING OF NON-TARGET ANIMALS AND THE RESTRICTION OF THE PLACEMENT OF LEGHOLD TRAPS.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits anyone from placing a leghold trap on or within 100 feet of a public or private elementary or secondary school property, licensed child day care center identified with a conspicuously posted sign, state or municipal park, municipal playground, public boat launch, roadside rest area, public picnic area, public campground, blazed trail, or state hiking trail. The bill does not prevent a person authorized by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) from setting a leghold trap within 100 feet of such areas to control nuisance wildlife.

The bill also requires anyone who sets, places, or attends any trap to report when a nontarget animal is trapped to DEEP within 24 hours. It defines a (1) "leghold trap" as a device, including a padded or unpadded steel jawed leghold style trap, designed to close on an animal's foot or leg with sufficient force to hold the animal until the person tending the trap returns, and (2) "nontarget animal" as an animal of a species not intended to be taken.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Trapping Laws and Regulations***

The law prohibits trapping on private property without the owner's permission and requires trappers to label their traps and check them at least once a day. It also permits the DEEP commissioner to issue regulations governing and prescribing trapping of fur-bearing animals in Connecticut. Such regulations include trap specifications and

trapper licensing and training requirements.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Children Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 8      Nay 4      (02/28/2013)